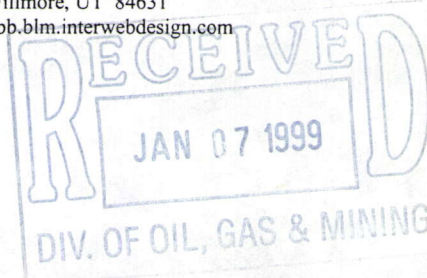




# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT FILLMORE FIELD OFFICE

35 East 500 North  
Fillmore, UT 84631  
<http://enbb.blm.interwebdesign.com>



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
3809  
(UT-010)  
UTU-075884

January 5, 1999

RICHARD STONE  
UNIQUE MINERALS  
1359 PARK STREET  
SALT LAKE CITY UT 84105

Dear Mr. Stone:

Your proposed operations in areas A, B, and C and your existing operation are so close together that they count as one operation and cannot be separated to keep your disturbances under 5 acres. Accordingly the submission you made on December 21, 1998 will be considered a Plan of Operations (Plan).

Your proposed operation in area D is far enough from your other operations that it needs a separate Plan or Notice. Please submit a separate filing for this area, however the comments below will also apply to it if the disturbances on it will exceed 5 acres.

The Plan that you submitted December 21, 1998 has been reviewed for completeness. We need the following additional information from you.

1. If you have actually located mining claims, the claim names and serial numbers need to be submitted. If you have not yet located mining claims, we need a statement so stating.
2. Your maps show approximately 440 acres of potential operational area (including area D). More detailed maps are needed showing the locations in which you actually intend to work. Amendments to the plan can be submitted at a later date to show additional work areas as you expand your operation.
3. You have not indicated the number of acres of proposed disturbance for any of your 4 areas except area D. This information is needed.
4. You have given a brief reclamation plan, but a more detailed plan is needed. You need to tell when, where, and how you propose to conduct reclamation. You indicate that you intend to conduct concurrent reclamation, but details are needed.
5. Your actual mining plan is rather brief and very generalized. You need to discuss the different phases of your operations in order for your mining plan to be adequately evaluated.

Approval of a Plan requires the preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA). The workload in this office is sufficient that if you wish to commence operations by your proposed startup date of August 1, 1999, you may want to consider contracting out the EA. If you wish to pursue this avenue, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Unique Minerals would sign a Memorandum of Understanding that would spell out the duties and responsibilities of both



parties. The BLM would select the consultant and you would pay for the work performed.

Your area A is in Sec. 11, T. 17 S., R. 13 W., SLBM. Section 11 is shown on the Master Title Plat to be withdrawn in its entirety from mineral entry. Although this withdrawal is most likely in error, as long as it is so indicated on the MTP, it is withdrawn and must be so treated. You may leave your proposed operations for Sec. 11 in your Plan if you desire, but approval for operations in Sec. 11 cannot be approved as long as the withdrawal shows on the plat.

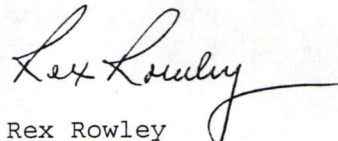
You were informed when you first submitted your Notice that the BLM believes the shale you are proposing to mine is not a locatable mineral, but is saleable instead. As long as your proposed operations fell under a Notice, this posed no problem because the BLM does not approve Notices, however, as your proposed operation will now come under a Plan, the BLM must take action. A validity examination will be conducted on your mining claims. You have two options.

Option 1: This office will suspend processing of your Plan until the validity examination and any associated hearings are complete.

Option 2: You may request that an escrow account be set up. You would pay into this escrow account the appraised sales price of the material removed in your operations. The Plan would be processed in the normal manner and a validity examination would be conducted. At the completion of the validity examination and any associated hearings and appeals the funds in the escrow account would be disbursed to the prevailing party.

If you have any questions, contact Ron Teseneer at 435-743-3126.

Sincerely,



Rex Rowley  
Field Manager

cc: Wayne Hedberg, UDOGM, (S/27/074)